

Eastern Illinois University

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February

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2-25-2021

## Daily Eastern News: February 25, 2021

Eastern Illinois University

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## CONVERSATION ON RACE

The Civic Engagement and Volunteerism Office hosted a conversation on race issues Tuesday.

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## 2 MORE WINS

After losing Tuesday, the Eastern softball team bounced back Wednesday with a pair of wins.

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Thursday, February 25, 2021

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 105 | NO. 101

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

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## CAA to vote on 7 items Thursday

By Corryn Brock  
News Editor | @corryn\_brock

The Council on Academic Affairs will meet Thursday at 2 p.m. virtually to discuss seven agenda items.

A program revision for Computer and Information Technology is one item that the council will vote on.

The council will vote on adding Software Development for Technology I as an optional course to Computer Science I, Software Development for Technology II as an optional course to Object Oriented Programming, and add Cloud Services to as elective for the CIT major.

The rationale for the change is:

• "To align better with student's success and ABET requirements, As the Computer and Information Technology major is growing, we would like to provide alternatives to the students to enhance their marketability. These alternatives are important for a variety of application design, development and testing."

• As Computer and Information Technology program has grown, there is a need from the Industry to introduce courses such as this. The content of this course helps CIT students attain the more "in-demand" skills as well as this course will assist in meeting accreditation requirements from the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)."

The CAA will also vote on multiple changes in the Geography Department.

One change is being made to increase the difficulty of a geography course, Introduction to Cartography. The department is seeking to replace the course with Cartography and Visualization, GEO 4810.

Th course could be used for both graduate and undergraduate students and would be put in the techniques category of both options of the undergraduate geography degree.

Pending the approval of Cartography and Visualization the Advanced Cartography course can be removed from all programs and deleted from the course catalog.

To maintain the number of core classes Introduction to GIS will be used in place of Introduction to Cartography for both undergraduate options in the geography major. Introduction to GIS will need to be moved to the techniques portion for both degrees.

The Lidar course would be moved to the list of techniques electives for both options.

For the geography minor, the department is asking for Introduction to Cartography to be removed from the course catalog and minor. Introduction to GIS will be used in place of Introduction to Cartography.

Introduction to Cartography will need

CAA, page 5

## 2K on a wellness day



KARINA DELGADO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Issac Navarro (left) a music performance sophomore, and Jerod Singleton (right) a music education freshman, play xbox during Delta Chi's video game tournament Wednesday afternoon. Delta Chi hosted a video game tournament as a brotherhood event at their chapter house.

## Students share coping tips for midterms

By Heather Vosburgh  
Campus Reporter | @DEN\_news

As midterms roll around the corner, students begin to prepare and provide helpful tips for studying, mental health, and reducing stress.

Aidan Collins, a sophomore theater student, says that he likes to shut himself away for a few hours in order to be able to work and focus.

"Well, I shut myself in the library for hours to make sure I get stuff done and don't get distracted because I have to be quiet in the library and it's just a good working environment," Collins said. "That, for some reason, motivates me to grind all the work out. That's mostly where I do all my studying, but since I'm a theater major, I live in Doudna and rehearse and go over any final scenes or monologues I must do. So, the library and Doudna are my homes for midterms."

Finding a quiet study spot can be helpful, Collins says.

"Find an area around campus that feels comfortable to study in and work in," Collins said. "Don't force yourself to study in a place that's difficult to study in, like in your room full of distractions. Find a place like the library or Doudna and grind out the studying. And don't study last minute, it never works as well as you'd hope."

Collins says his big mental health tip for reducing stress is taking a break.

"Find time after a big study session or when your head is filled to the brim, and you just need a break to do a fun hobby you enjoy or activity to take your mind off of it for a while," Collins said. "I personally game when I want a break, so find something that helps you relax. To reduce

"I personally game when I want a break, so find something that helps you relax. To reduce stress, mediate. Doesn't have to be exactly meditation, but just taking a break from everything."

-Aidan Collins, sophomore

stress, meditate. Doesn't have to be exactly meditation, but just taking a break from everything. Shutting off your phone, computer, and everything for a while. Or just a nice nap, naps are good, too."

Sophomore neuroscience major Rashad Oliver says he finds that basic review of class content helps him on midterms.

"I usually take time out my day to review notes or look up helpful YouTube videos," Oliver said. "They help me with retaining information so it's fresher in my mind when it's time to take the exam."

Like Collins, Oliver also says he recommends taking a break.

"Watch your favorite movie or listen to your favorite song," Oliver said. "It takes my mind off of stress and it's a quick way to escape."

To reduce stress, Oliver says to work on or pick up a hobby.

"Just do things you enjoy," Oliver said. "Stick to hobbies that make you happy. I write music, study astrology, and watch movie analysis videos."

Abby Moore, sophomore communication disorders and science major, says writing out important information can be helpful while studying.

"It depends on the class, but normally I'll write out everything that I think I'll need to know on paper so it gets stuck in my brain, and just making sure I'm up to date on all the information," Moore said. "It helps me review what we've already gone over and lets me make sure I know what I need to for midterms or at that point in the semester. Also, my classes are starting to focus in on my major, so I really need to keep on top of what I'm learning."

Moore says taking a break is very important when it comes to studying for midterms and keeping mentally healthy.

"It's super important to take some time to relax especially during a stressful week like midterms week," Moore said. "Practice some self-care, take a nap, watch some TV. Breaks from studying are necessary. Otherwise you'll drive yourself crazy."

If all else fails, Moore says to sleep.

"A lot of stress can come from lack of sleep," Moore said. "So, definitely get lots of sleep and drink lots of water, you know, stay healthy. Go out and see people, don't be antisocial."

Heather Vosburgh can be reached at 581-2812 or at hmvosburgh@eiu.edu.



## Local weather

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Partly Cloudy  
High: 46°  
Low: 27°Mostly Cloudy  
High: 50°  
Low: 40°

## THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

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## STATE AND NATION

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Pfizer COVID vaccine works well in big 'real world' test

A real-world test of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine in more than half a million people confirms that it's very effective at preventing serious illness or death, even after one dose.

Wednesday's published results, from a mass vaccination campaign in Israel, give strong reassurance that the benefits seen in smaller, limited testing persisted when the vaccine was used much more widely in a general population with various ages and health conditions.

The vaccine was 92% effective at preventing severe disease after two shots and 62% after one. Its estimated effectiveness for preventing death was 72% two to three weeks after the first shot, a rate that may improve as immunity builds over time.

It seemed as effective in folks over 70 as in younger people.

"This is immensely reassuring ... better than I would have guessed," said the Mayo Clinic's Dr. Gregory Poland.

Vanderbilt University's Dr. Buddy Creech agreed: "Even after one dose we can see very high effectiveness in prevention of death," he said.

Neither doctor had a role in the Israel study but both are involved in other coronavirus vaccine work.

Both doctors also said the new results may boost consideration of delaying the second shot, as the United Kingdom is trying, or giving one dose instead of two to people who have already had COVID-19, as France is doing, to stretch limited supplies.

"I would rather see 100 million people

have one dose than to see 50 million people have two doses," Creech said. "I see a lot of encouragement on one dose" in the results from Israel, which were published by the New England Journal of Medicine.

The vaccine, made by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech, is given as two shots, three weeks apart, in most countries.

The study was led by researchers from the Clalit Research Institute and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, with Harvard University in the U.S. It did not report on safety of the vaccine, just effectiveness, but no unexpected problems arose in previous testing.

Researchers compared nearly 600,000 people 16 and older in Israel's largest health care organization who were given shots in December or January to an equal number of people of similar age, sex and health who did not receive vaccine. None of the participants had previously tested positive for the virus.

The vaccine was estimated to be 57% effective at preventing any symptoms of COVID-19 two to three weeks after the first dose, and 94% a week or more after the second dose.

Effectiveness was 74% after one shot and 87% after two for preventing hospitalization, and 46% and 92% for preventing confirmed infection. Reducing infections gives hope that the vaccine may curb spread of the virus, but this type of study can't determine if that's the case.

There were 41 COVID-19-related deaths, 32 of them in people who did not get vaccine.

## States pass their own virus aid, not waiting on Washington

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Not waiting for more federal help, states have been approving their own coronavirus aid packages, spending hundreds of millions of dollars to help residents and business owners devastated by the the pandemic's economic fallout.

Maryland and California recently moved forward with help for the poor, the jobless, small businesses and those needing child care. New Mexico and Pennsylvania are funneling grants directly to cash-starved businesses. North Carolina's governor wants additional state aid for such things as bonus pay for teachers and boosting rural internet speeds.

The spending also provides fuel

for critics who say states don't need another massive infusion of cash from Congress. The Biden administration's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief plan calls for sending \$350 billion to state and local governments. Directing federal money to state governments has been so contentious that the idea was stripped from the previous congressional aid package passed in December.

Many governors say continued uncertainty about the ongoing effects of the pandemic on their economies justifies the need for more federal spending. They say their state aid initiatives are targeted at people who remain desperate for help nearly a year after the pandemic began shuttering businesses.

## FDA says single-dose shot from J&amp;J prevents severe COVID cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — Johnson & Johnson's single-dose vaccine offers strong protection against severe COVID-19, according to an analysis released Wednesday by U.S. regulators that sets the stage for a final decision on a new and easier-to-use shot to help tame the pandemic.

The long-anticipated shot could offer the nation a third vaccine option and help speed vaccinations by requiring just one dose instead of two. Food and Drug Administration scientists confirmed that over-

all the vaccine is about 66% effective at preventing moderate to severe COVID-19, and about 85% effective against the most serious illness. The agency also said J&J's shot is safe.

The analysis is just one step in the FDA's evaluation. On Friday, the agency's independent advisers will debate if the evidence is strong enough to recommend the shot. With that advice, the FDA is expected to make a final decision within days.

## Madigan's successor resigns amid 'questionable conduct'

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The hand-picked successor to former House Speaker Michael Madigan's seat abruptly resigned Wednesday, under pressure from his sponsors who accused him of unspecified "questionable conduct."

Edward Guerra Kodatt submitted his resignation to the House clerk Wednesday morning, according to Democrat Emanuel "Chris" Welch of Hillside, citing a spokesman for the new House speaker. Kodatt quit just three days after he was chosen from among 10 candidates to replace Madigan, a Democrat from the Southwest Side of Chicago who had held the post for more than 50 years.

"After learning of alleged questionable conduct by Mr. Kodatt, it was suggested that he resign as state representative for the 22nd District. We are committed to a zero tolerance policy in the workplace," Madigan and Chicago Alderman Marty Quinn, who share office space, said in a statement.

They did not elaborate on the allegations against Kodatt, who was previously a bilingual outreach and budget assistant in Madigan and Quinn's constituent services office.

Technically, Madigan's replacement is chosen by ward committee members for the 22nd House district — volunteer Democratic Party officials responsible for

organizing elections and boosting turnout. But Madigan, committeeman for the 13th Ward since 1969, controls 56% of the weighted vote, based on the number of ward votes cast for the seat in the 2020 election. So he could single-handedly choose Kodatt and retains that control for another selection hearing scheduled Thursday morning.

The 26-year-old Kodatt's rise and demise marked another curious turn in the meteoric crash of Madigan's own career. The product of the old-style Chicago political machine, Madigan was head of the House for all but two years since 1983, the longest-serving legislative leader in U.S. history. But utility company ComEd admitted in a deferred prosecution agreement with federal prosecutors last summer that it engaged in a yearslong bribery scheme to influence Madigan for favorable legislation.

After that, support for Madigan, 78, began to peel away, with 19 formerly loyal Democrats announcing they would not support him for a 19th term at the helm. He failed to collect the necessary 60 votes in January and suspended his campaign while the caucus coalesced around Welch. Madigan then resigned his job as state representative last week and relinquished control of the state Democratic Party by stepping aside as its chairman on Monday.

Enthusiasm for Madigan had been deteriorating since the resurgence of the #MeToo movement more than three years ago, with critics questioning his handling of reported incidents of sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation by campaign workers, lawmakers, and legislative staff, including Madigan's longtime chief of staff, Timothy Mapes, who was forced to resign in June 2018.

One highly publicized case involved Kevin Quinn, a Madigan political consultant and Marty Quinn's brother. Veteran campaign worker Alaina Hampton complained in early 2018 that Madigan and party officials had reacted too slowly after she reported that Quinn had sent her unwanted text messages commenting on her appearance and asking her for dates, beginning in 2016 and continuing despite her requests that he stop.

She reported Quinn to Marty Quinn, his supervisor, in February 2017 and later wrote Madigan a letter, but Kevin Quinn was not fired until after Hampton quit her campaign job and was about to go public.

In November 2019, Hampton received \$275,000 in settling a federal lawsuit against several Madigan political committees alleging her complaints about Quinn halted her career advancement.

## Biden aims to distribute masks to millions in 'equity' push

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden plans to distribute millions of face masks to Americans in communities hard-hit by the coronavirus beginning next month as part of his efforts to ensure "equity" in the government's response to the pandemic.

Biden, who like Donald Trump's administration considered sending masks to all Americans, is instead adopting a more conservative approach, aiming to reach underserved communities and those bearing the brunt of the outbreak. Trump's administration shelved the plans entirely.

Biden's plan will distribute masks not through the mail, but instead through Federally Qualified Community Health Centers and the nation's food bank and food pantry systems, the White House announced Wednesday.

The Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture will be involved in the distribution of more than 25 million American-made cloth masks in both adult and kid sizes. The White House estimates they will reach 12 million to 15 million people.



STATE AND NATION

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# GOP rallies against Dem. virus relief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans rallied solidly Wednesday against Democrats' proposed \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill as lawmakers awaited a decision by the Senate's parliamentarian that could bolster or potentially kill a pivotal provision hiking the federal minimum wage.

Despite their paper-thin congressional majorities, Democratic leaders were poised to push the sweeping package through the House on Friday. They were hoping the Senate, where changes seem likely, would follow quickly enough to have legislation on President Joe Biden's desk by mid-March.

By late Wednesday, not one Republican in either chamber had publicly said he or she would back the legislation. GOP leaders were honing attacks on the package as a job killer that does too little to reopen schools or businesses shuttered for the pandemic and that was not only wasteful but also even unscrupulous.

"I haven't seen a Republican yet that's found something in there that they agree with," said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. "I think all Republicans believe in three simple things: They want a bill that puts us back to work, back to school and back to health. This bill is too costly, too corrupt and too liberal."

The hardening opposition suggested that Biden's first major legislative initiative could encounter unanimous GOP opposition. That was a counterpoint to the new president's refrain during his campaign about bringing the country together and a replay of the Republican wall that new President Barack Obama encountered in 2009 and most of his administration.

Democrats showed no signs of backing down, citing the assistance the measure would spread to people, businesses and state and local governments.

"If congressional Republicans want to oppose all that, my response is: Good luck," Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said on the Senate floor.

By Wednesday evening, the most suspense was over a decision anticipated from Elizabeth MacDonough, the Senate's nonpartisan arbiter of its rules, that promised enormous political and legislative consequences.

The relief bill includes a provision that over five years would hike the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour. The parliamentarian is involved because Democrats are pushing the overall \$1.9 trillion measure through Congress under special rules that will let them avoid a Senate filibuster by Republicans.

Those same rules prohibit provisions with only an "incidental" impact on the federal budget because they are chiefly driven by other policy purposes. The parliamentarian decides if a provision passes that test.

With Republicans strongly against a minimum wage increase, the only way for it to survive is by including it in a filibuster-proof bill like the COVID-19 relief measure. To end a filibuster, Democrats would need 60 votes, an impossibility for them in the evenly divided 50-50 Senate.

If the parliamentarian decides the minimum wage provision can remain in the bill, it would be a major boost for its proponents. But there would be no guarantee the measure would survive because some moderates oppose it or want it dialed back. That suggests grueling bargaining on its final form would lie ahead.

A decision by the parliamentarian that the minimum wage hike must fall from the bill could be fatal, but not necessarily. Democrats could employ a rarely used procedural move to muscle the minimum wage provision into the bill with just 51 votes anyway, but it was unclear if they could muster enough support to do that.

The minimum wage has stood at \$7.25 since 2009. Winning the increase is a top priority for progressives at a time when Democrats control Congress and the White House.

The overall bill would provide millions of Americans with \$1,400 direct payments to help them weather the pandemic that's stalled much of the economy for a year and killed half a million people. It contains billions of dollars for vaccines and COVID-19 testing, schools, state and local governments and emergency jobless benefits while providing tax cuts or payments for many families with children.

# Man pleads guilty in fatal shooting of state trooper

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (AP) — One of two men charged in the 2019 fatal shooting of an Illinois State Police trooper in East St. Louis has changed his not guilty plea, the St. Clair County state's attorney's office said.

Al Stewart Jr., 21, pleaded guilty Feb. 10 to armed violence, obstructing justice, and possession with intent to distribute cannabis charges in the death of Trooper Nicholas Hopkins of Waterloo.

Hopkins, 33, was wounded during an exchange of gunfire while serving a warrant at an East St. Louis home on Aug. 23, 2019. He died later at a St. Louis hospital. Investigators determined that while Stewart was in possession of a handgun, he wasn't the shooter.

State's attorney spokesman Chris Allen would not say why no record of Stewart's guilty plea has been filed with the St. Clair County Circuit Court clerk's office as of Wednesday.

"We're unable to comment on the case as it is pending litigation before the court," Allen told the Belleville News-Democrat.

Stewart's sentencing hearing has been scheduled for Aug. 23.

Christopher R. Grant, who lived at the home where the warrant was being served, has been charged with murder in Hopkins' death and is awaiting trial. Grant and Stewart engaged in a day-long standoff with East St. Louis police, Illinois State Police, the SWAT team and other law enforcement before they surrendered.

Grant was indicted on eight federal charges in March 2020, including first-degree murder, maintaining a drug house, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug crime.

Stewart pleaded guilty to federal gun charges related to a standoff with police after the shooting of Hopkins. He was sentenced in September to four years in prison to serve concurrently with any sentence imposed in state court.

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## STAFF EDITORIAL

Sen. Bailey  
unfit to be  
governor  
of Illinois

Illinois State Senator Darren Bailey, a Republican representing the 55th district, announced on Monday that he is running for governor.

Bailey has been an outspoken critic of current governor JB Pritzker and has been especially critical of Pritzker's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notably, Bailey was escorted out of a special sessions of the House in May when he was still a representative for refusing to wear a mask.

This was after he filed a lawsuit against challenging Pritzker's authority to enforce emergency orders meant to mitigate the spread of COVID.

We at The Daily Eastern News think that Bailey's stance on the COVID-19 pandemic shows that he would be unfit to serve as governor.

The pandemic will hopefully be over long before he would take office should he win the election, but the fact that he seemingly did not take the pandemic seriously shows a serious lack in judgement and a lack of faith in science and medicine.

He certainly should take science more seriously regarding the virus, considering that approximately one out of every 439 people in Illinois' 55th district has died from COVID compared to one out of every 650 nationally.

This past year has proven that we need people in power that believe in science. Bailey is not one of those people.

## Quote of the Day:

**"Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it."**

James Baldwin

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of The Daily Eastern News.

## Letters to the Editor

Those interested can inquire at opinions.DEN@gmail.com for all opinion questions, submissions and letters to the editor. Please allow a week for us to publish letters to the editor.

The Editor reserves the right to not publish letters. Letters that are 250 words or less will be prioritized, but longer ones will be considered by the editorial board. Please include your name and phone number to verify letters.

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BY ZACH BERGER

## Filters can distort our self image

In 2015, Snapchat introduced its first ever filters and they quickly gained popularity. Some of the most popular filters would give you dog ears or something silly like that.

Other apps like Facebook and Instagram followed suit, creating their own versions of Snapchat stories and providing users with tons of new filters.

What started as a fun way of image-sharing has created something a lot darker, with more and more filters coming out that distort your face to make it fit the societal standards of beauty. Lots of filters now give you a smaller nose, bigger lips, wider eyes and clear (often paler) skin.

These filters give people the one-click tools that make them feel more confident sharing photos of themselves, including me.

Using filters for years completely changed how I saw myself. Once upon a time, I took pictures without using them.

Now when I look at my natural face in a camera, it just looks off to me. That is, until I choose a filter that completely changes what I look like.



Kyara Morales-Rodriguez

I've learned that filters are no good for my self-esteem, or anybody else's. I'm trying to wean myself off of the use of face-altering filters, and I advise you all to do the same.

When we use filters, we de-normalize our faces in a way that makes it harder to accept our own faces and the faces of people who look like us. We remove the completely natural markers of personhood that should be more accepted by society.

We all have wrinkles, dark circles, pim-

ples, hyperpigmentation and other things seen as "flaws" that are actually completely normal. All those facial features do is show that we have aged naturally. You can't expect yourself to have the same smooth, clear skin you did as a literal baby!

I know what you're thinking: "Kyara, I've seen your Instagram, sis! Practice what you preach."

And to that I say: I know. I don't think filters are completely evil, and I think it's fine to use one occasionally. I just think that if you can't take a single picture without one, you have a problem on your hands.

I also know that I still have a lot of work to do on the journey to loving myself, but someday I will get there. Someday we will get there.

It's going to be tough at first, but it's going to be so worth it when you look at yourself in a photo one day and all you think is, "Damn! I look good!"

*Kyara Morales-Rodriguez is a junior English major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or knmoralesrodriguez@eiu.edu.*

## Hate crimes against Asian Americans rising

Hate crimes against people of color, in general, are not a new reality for people in the U.S. Hate crimes targeting Asian Americans have risen since the start of the pandemic last year.

A lot of the blame can come from the anti-Asian and xenophobic rhetoric spewed by former president Trump at the start of the pandemic.

Trump, along with his supporters, constantly referred to COVID-19 as the "China Virus" and blamed China for the cause of the pandemic. Because of this hate speech, many racist people have felt comfortable openly attacking Asian Americans.

Hate crimes against Asian Americans aren't unheard of but there's been a definite rise in these crimes since the start of the pandemic. In 2019 only 216 hate crimes were reported against Asian Americans while 2,808 crimes were reported from March to December of 2020.

Many Asian Americans and supporting activists have been making efforts to spread awareness to the public of what's been going on. There have been some efforts from



Destiny Blanchard

government-run organizations as well. The NYPD created an Asian Hate Crimes Task Force. This task force's purpose was to investigate the crimes, but also allowed for Asian Americans to feel more comfortable reporting them.

Unfortunately, something like a specified task force only seems available in places like New York where the communities are more diverse and the police force is stronger. Without spreading the word we can't expect more efforts to be made throughout the rest of the country.

The next step is to ask ourselves what the rest of us can do to help the situation. Many activists have used their social media platforms to spread awareness. There have also been many GoFundMe's started to financially support those who have been killed due to the attacks, and there are many nonprofits you can donate to.

Organizations such as Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Stop AAPI Hate, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Womankind and the Anti-Defamation League all exist to go against Asian discrimination. Also, it helps to normalize having conversations about incidents of discrimination in general to let those from disenfranchised communities feel safe enough to speak about it on their own.

We can't leave all the work to be done by Asian Americans alone. The more of us there are to make an effort, the closer we will get to stop the hate.

*Destiny Blanchard is a junior management major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or dblanchard@eiu.edu.*

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# Conversation on race hosted by CEVO Tuesday

By John Wills  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_news

A conversation between Eastern students at the Civic Engagement and Volunteerism Office's Living Room Conversation event on race created a space for students of color on campus to share their experiences and relate to one another.

The event, hosted by graduate assistant Brandy Matthews, only drew one attendant, Isaiah Edwards. The conversation revolved around several topics, including police violence, racism, and their experiences as a student of color on Eastern's campus.

The two students acknowledged the presence of racism and discussed the ways it has affected them on campus, at home, and in the Charleston area.

When discussing the killings of

George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, Matthews said that "there are thoughts of being scared, you know? If it could happen to them, what makes me think it couldn't happen to me?"

Edwards also noted occasionally feeling unsettled as a person of color. "I feel it... I walk around, I walk in stores, people act like... they've never seen a black man before. People stare... they stare hard."

Alongside the concerns they have about their experiences on campus, they worry that were they ever in a situation of peril, there would be no support for them.

"What if I'm riding around one day and my car breaks down... and I don't know where I'm at, really... what if something happened to me? What if somebody tried to do something," Edwards said.

With a hard and powerful conversation behind them, Matthews shifted the topic of discussion to self-care in hopes of promoting healthful living amidst the stresses of the day.

Edwards acknowledged the necessity of self-care, given the amount of things students of color, as well as students in general, need to think about. "It's like you're being attacked from every angle. You got school, you got so much going on in the world... you got loved ones, friends that you're thinking about... you're just expected to stay focused."

How does he cope with it? Religion, he said. "As far as my spiritual side goes, I'm in my bible a lot."

While Matthews says that Eastern has only recently begun providing an outlet for students of color to have their voices heard on campus, she says

"I did my undergrad here at Eastern, and there was never a place for me to feel comfortable to talk about me being black, ever. So if I can give that to a student, that'd be great."

-Brandy Matthews

that it appears there is more programming of the sort to come.

"I did my undergrad here at Eastern, and there was never a place for me to feel comfortable to talk about me being black, ever. So if I can give that to a student, that'd be great... I feel like it's very important," Matthews said.

"In March, I saw that there were more spaces, as well as conferences... EIU Unity, there's one March 5th, and

they're talking about not just people of color but minority people in general, people with disabilities, LGBTQ, people of color, and there's conferences for people to learn more. I feel like it'll be a new occurrence - now that people are talking about it more, I feel like it will be."

John Wills can be reached at 581-2812 or at [jmwills@eiu.edu](mailto:jmwills@eiu.edu).

## » CAA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to be replaced by Introduction to GIS.

Cartography and Visualization will need to be added to the "nine hours from" section.

The "six hours from" section will need updates. According to the proposal, "...GEO 3275 Planetary Geology was proposed and accepted up through CAA last year. In the GIS minor in the "6 hours from:" electives section, it states that GEO 3470 - Seminar in Geology can be taken with the footnote that it must be the Planetary Geology Seminar. As this

class is now on the books with its own course number, the "6 hours from:" elective list needs to be updated with the proper course number."

The council is also being asked to remove Advanced Cartography from the minor.

The Hospitality and Tourism department is asking the council to add a new course.

The course, Wedding Events Management, is meant to give "an overview of the wedding event industry with an emphasis on wedding events as a career option

within the hospitality and tourism management industry. The focus will be on the managerial skills necessary for the design, planning, and implementation of a wedding event. The social and cultural impact of wedding ceremonies will be explored."

The only prerequisite for the class would be The Hospitality Industry.

The rationale proposal for the course states:

"Hospitality and tourism management students have repeatedly stated in senior exit surveys

that a course in wedding planning would have helped them prepare for career opportunities in wedding planning. Students enrolled in HTM 2700 Hospitality Industry continue to express an interest in pursuing planning wedding events as a career option. The online and hybrid format effectively allows for broad content coverage."

The council will also be voting on revising Software Development for Technology I and Software Development for Technology II.

The rationale for both revisions is "This is part of an effort to redesign the Computer and Information Technology program such that it reflects the nature of the said program. The content of this course has been identified as a part of the core content for this undergraduate program and meets accreditation requirements from the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)."

Corryn Brock can be reached at 581-2812 or at [cebrock@eiu.edu](mailto:cebrock@eiu.edu).

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# Practice makes perfect



KARINA DELGADO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Micah Schnyders, a freshman communication major and member of the men's basketball team, practices solo on the court Wednesday evening. The Panthers play against Southeast Missouri Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

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## AP SPORTS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## LA sheriff calls Woods crash 'purely an accident'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles County sheriff on Wednesday characterized the crash that seriously injured Tiger Woods as "purely an accident" and appeared to rule out any potential criminal charges even as authorities were still investigating.

Deputies did not see any evidence that the golf star was impaired by drugs or alcohol after Tuesday's rollover wreck on a downhill stretch of road known for crashes, Sheriff Alex Villanueva said.

"He was not drunk," Villanueva said during a livestreamed social media event. "We can throw that one out."

Woods, who had checked into a clinic in 2017 for help dealing with prescription medication, was driving alone through coastal Los Angeles suburbs when his SUV struck a raised median, crossed into oncoming lanes and flipped several times. The crash caused "significant" injuries to his right leg, and he underwent a "long surgical procedure," according to a post on the golfer's Twitter account.

Villanueva said investigators may seek search warrants for a blood sample to definitively rule out drugs and alcohol. Detectives also could apply for search warrants for Woods' cellphone to see if he was driving distracted, as well as the vehicle's event data recorder, or "black box," which would give information about how fast he was going.

Joe Giacalone, a professor at the John

Jay College of Criminal Justice and a retired New York police sergeant, said it was "premature" for Villanueva to determine the crash was an accident just a day later.

"The blood test could give us a whole other insight," Giacalone said, noting that some drugs are not necessarily detectable by observation. "Because it's Tiger Woods, people are going to demand answers. You have to dot your I's and cross your T's."

Crash investigations typically include interviews of first responders and bystanders as well as inspections of the road and the vehicle, including photographing and measuring the scene and checking to see if the vehicle had defects or malfunctions, according to William Peppard, a retired Bergen County, New Jersey, police detective who has served as a crash investigator.

Peppard said in typical cases with no immediate indications the driver was impaired, detectives might not seek blood samples if the crash did not injure anyone else or damage property.

"Take the celebrity out of it — it's a matter of resources and time," he said.

The crash was the latest setback for Woods, who at times has looked unstoppable with his 15 major championships and record-tying 82 victories on the PGA Tour. He is among the world's most recognizable sports figures, and at 45, with a reduced schedule from nine previous sur-

geries, remains golf's biggest draw.

He won the 2008 U.S. Open with shredded knee ligaments and two stress fractures in his left leg. His personal life imploded in 2009 when he was caught having multiple extramarital affairs and crashed his vehicle near his Florida home. He returned to win his 11th award as PGA Tour player of the year and reach No. 1.

In 2017, Florida police found him asleep behind the wheel of a car parked awkwardly on the side of the road. He was arrested on a DUI charge and said he had an unexpected reaction to prescription medicine for back pain. Woods later pleaded guilty to reckless driving and checked into a clinic to get help with prescription medication and a sleep disorder.

And then after four back surgeries that kept him out of golf for the better part of two years, he won the Masters in April 2019 for the fifth time, ranking among the great comebacks in golf.

Woods had a fifth back surgery, a microdiscectomy, on Dec. 23, just three days after he played the PNC Championship with his son Charlie, now 12.

Woods was driving his courtesy vehicle from the Genesis Invitational when he crashed. Deputy Carlos Gonzalez, who was the first to arrive at the crash, patrols the road and said he sometimes catches people topping 80 mph (129 kph) in the downhill, 45-mph zone. Crashes are common.

## Seattle doing damage control with players after exec's video

Seattle Mariners general manager Jerry Dipoto and manager Scott Servais are doing damage control with players who were directly mentioned or referenced by former team CEO Kevin Mather in an online video that led to his resignation.

The message over the past two days to those affected has been: you have every right to be upset.

"We are very open with our players and urge them to be the same. And if they want to be angry, they should be, frankly. They should be insulted," Dipoto said Tuesday. "But at the same time, they are collectively driven toward what we're trying to do here as a team."

The video posted over the weekend showed Mather expressing his views of the club's organizational strategy and making controversial remarks about players during a recent online event. He took insensitive shots at a former All-Star from Japan and a top prospect from the Dominican Republic for their English skills. He also admitted the team may be manipulating service time for some of its young players.

Mather apologized Sunday and then abruptly resigned the next day, but not before casting a pall over the organization as it began full squad workouts in Arizona.

Dipoto and Servais are both angry.

"I'm embarrassed that this is the way we're viewed because for those of you who've been around me or Scott or this team, this is not how we're wired," Dipoto said. "It's embarrassing to be categorized or deal with the stigma that we are now pinned with, and we have to shed it. It's ours to bear and we now have to be accountable to that, and then find a way to grow beyond it."

Seattle pitcher Marco Gonzales said Tuesday after the first full team workout that players are upset about the comments and annoyed by the distraction when they'd rather have the attention on the build-up toward the start of spring training games.

Gonzales said players are viewing Mather's remarks as the views of someone "not close to us. He's not here throwing a ball. He's not here swinging a bat."

"Sometimes a common goal can unite you, but sometimes a common enemy can do the same, if not greater," Gonzales said. "So I think that's the boat we're in right now."

Mather's most inflammatory comments were about the English skills of former All-Star pitcher Hisashi Iwakuma and top prospect Julio Rodriguez and drew the strongest responses from Dipoto and Servais.

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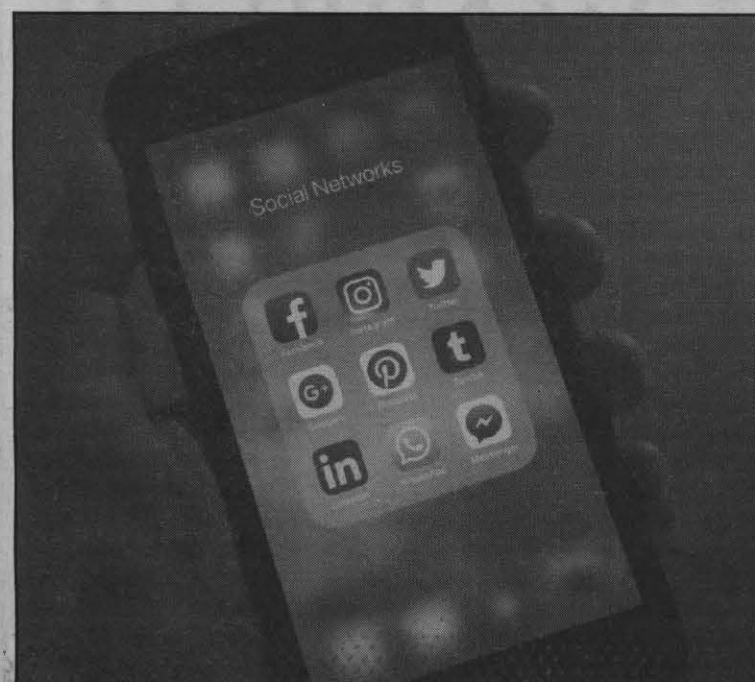
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# Panthers win 2 games Wednesday

By Adam Tumino  
Editor-in-Chief | @adam\_tumino

After suffering their first loss of the season Tuesday to No. 7 Louisiana, the Eastern softball team bounced back Wednesday, picking up win against Southern University and Louisiana-Monroe.

The Panthers are now 6-1 this season and have the most wins in the OVC.

For the first game Wednesday, Eastern played Southern for the third time this season, and for the third time this season, the Panthers won with relative ease.

Eastern scored in double digits for the second time against Southern, winning the game 10-2.

The Panthers scored 6 runs in the fourth inning, a rally that was started by a solo home run by redshirt-senior Mia Davis. Abi Stahlhut and Aniya Holt each recorded RBI singles before Megan Burton hit a 3-run home run to blow the game open.

Redshirt-sophomore Hannah Cravens hit a solo home run in the fifth inning, her fifth home run of the season already.

Pitching for the Panthers was freshman Olivia Price. She pitched a complete game, allowing 2 runs on 6 hits in 7 innings.

The second game of the day against Louisiana-Monroe was also the closest game of the season for the Panthers.

Behind a strong performance from Davis at the plate and redshirt-senior Jade Montgomery on the mound, the Panthers were able



Eastern redshirt-sophomore infielder Denaed Santini prepares to begin a plate appearance during a scrimmage in practice on Oct. 8, 2020, at Williams Field.

to hold on for a 5-4 win.

After giving up a run in the bottom of the first inning, Eastern got on the board with 3 runs in the third inning.

Cravens drove in the first Panther run when she pulled a double into the gap, scoring redshirt-sophomore Katie Nicholson.

Redshirt-senior Haley Mitchell also had an RBI single in the inning and Davis recorded an RBI double.

Davis also provided some insurance runs for the Panthers with a 2-run single in the top of the fifth.

Those runs ended up being important, ensuring the Panthers retained the lead after allowing Louisiana-Monroe to score 2 runs in the sixth inning.

Montgomery picked the win for Eastern.

She gave up 11 hits, but was able to limit the damage, allowing

3 earned runs and 4 runs total in the game while striking out four batters.

The Panthers will continue their stretch of games in the south to begin the season this weekend.

They will be playing in the Green and Gold Classic in Birmingham, Alabama, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Adam Tumino can be reached at 581-2812 or [ajtumino@eiu.edu](mailto:ajtumino@eiu.edu).

# Baseball team falls to Salukis Tuesday

Staff Report | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern baseball team came up short Tuesday in an high-scoring match-up against Southern Illinois, losing to the Salukis 10-9 on the road.

The Panthers are now 2-2 on the season after winning 2-of-3 against Nicholls State to open the season.

The Panthers jumped ahead 4-0 by the second inning before allowing 6 unanswered runs to Southern Illinois, five of which came in the bottom of the third.

Eastern would get the lead back in the fourth, scoring 3 runs, but then lost it again in the bottom of the inning, allowing the Salukis to 3 runs of their own. Southern held on to their lead, eventually winning by 1 run.

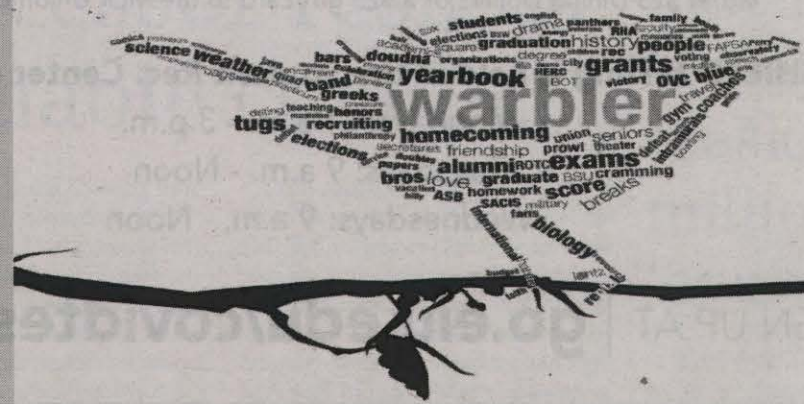
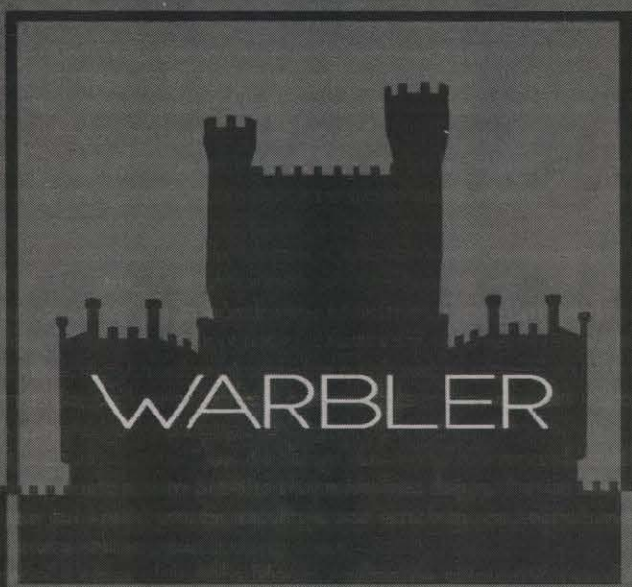
Redshirt-sophomore Logan Eickhoff led the team with 3 hits and 3 RBI in the game. His fellow redshirt-sophomore Trey Sweeney added 2 hits and 2 RBI and redshirt junior Dalton Doyle contributed a 2-run single.

Redshirt-freshman Hayden Birdsong got stuck with the loss for Eastern, allowing 4 earned runs in 3.2 innings on the mound.

Eastern is back in action this weekend, playing Arkansas Little Rock on the road on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Sports Staff can be reached at 581-2812 or [densportsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:densportsdesk@gmail.com).

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